

## **Employment Security Division**

**Update By Tom Nelson, Director, ESD**

### **1. ALEXsys Stats for period 10/1/2006 through 9/30/2007:**

<b>Total Participants</b>	<b>109,855</b>
<b>Staff Assisted Services</b>	<b>61,580</b>
<b>Entered Employment</b>	<b>27,547</b>
<b>Employment for Persons w/Disability</b>	<b>1,022</b>
<b>Veteran Participants</b>	<b>10,963</b>
<b>Disabled Veteran Participants</b>	<b>1,953</b>
<b>Employment for Veterans</b>	<b>2,457</b>
<b>Employment for Chapter 31 Vets</b>	<b>71</b>

**2. ALEXsys Variable Report upgrade.** This has been delayed for production until June 2008 because of DP resources and a need for a databank that is being produced now. Databank will pull information together that allows the system to generate the ad hoc reports and help the department with upcoming Workforce Information and Reporting requirements this Spring. Next step will be to add and expand a credentialing component that allows employers to find applicants based on a credential or license and expiration date. These upgrades are in preparation for resident hire during gasline construction.

**3. Our Senior Community Services Employment Program (SCSEP) state plan is being drafted.** It was due to the federal government by the 31<sup>st</sup> of March and was recently extended to June 2008. It will be vetted through the public process, both through the AWIB and a public comment period beginning in March. It will be posted on the AWIB site and the State's public notice system.

**4. Career Readiness Certificate.** Alaska Career Ready program is underway. It is an employability certificate based on the ACT WorkKeys® assessment. The State Board of Education approved regulations that compel 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students to take a WIN for WorkKeys® test and 11<sup>th</sup> graders to take a full-blown WorkKeys® assessment – all beginning School Year 2009-2010. The board asked our department and Dept. of Education to report back to them every board meeting as to the progress of piloting and rolling it out. Right now DEED is working on six pilot sites. Additionally, we have already contracted with ACT for the WorkKeys® Test and it is available in our seven large job centers and will be expanding the locations in the coming year.

**5. WIA and Wagner-Peyser Federal Audit Results.** Report finally came to the Department. Many of the items noted have been taken care of already and others were largely administrative in nature.

**6. Ted Burke or Job Center Customer Service Guru and field general retired from State Service on 30 November 2007** and we are in the process of hiring a new Chief of Field Operations (Assistant Director position). Donene Tweeten from Kodiak Retired on 12/31; and Shannon Mahoney-Irish resigned from our Valdez Job Center. They have been replaced by Maureen Butler in Kodiak and Twilah Beck in Valdez.

**7. Bill of Interest to ESD:** HB 31 Personal Information; HB 59 Unemployment; HB 65 Personal Information; HB 226 STEP; SB 120 Unemployment; and SB 124 TVEP. We are also trying to get a confidentiality bill introduced for federal UI compliance.